



U.S. Department of Justice

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PORTSMOUTH MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG SALES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Gabriel Kanakis-Hines, 24 of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, pleaded guilty in the United States District Court to three counts of selling ecstasy in March 2005. The sales occurred in the vicinity of the University of New Hampshire campus. A sentencing hearing will be held on June 16, 2006. Kanakis-Hines faces a statutory maximum of 20 years for each sale. However, under the federal sentencing guidelines, his sentence is likely to be much lower than the statutory maximum.

Kanakis-Hines sold or agreed to sell 3,4 methylenedioxymethamphetamine, commonly known as ecstasy, to an undercover agent on March 8, 2005, March 21, 2005 and on March 30, 2005. He was arrested on March 30, 2005. The material he was selling to the undercover agent was tested by the State Police Forensic Laboratory and found to be ecstasy, a controlled substance. Users of ecstasy will often experience a general feeling of euphoria and are usually unaware of the drug's dangerous, and sometimes lethal, effect on body temperature and hydration.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: "This office will continue to work with federal, state, and local law enforcement in the war against illegal drugs. This case proves that the threat posed by sale of dangerous illegal drugs is not just confined to our cities, but is found everywhere - even on our University campuses. We will work hard to investigate and prosecute drug dealers wherever we find them."

This case was investigated by the Durham Police Department headed by Chief David Kurz and University of New Hampshire Police Department headed by Chief Nicholas Halias. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Assistant Don Feith.